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Serial No. 10/821,563

June 13, 2006

DRAWINGS

N/A.

REMARKS

The Examiner's thoughtful attention to this application is sincerely appreciated.

Reconsideration of the rejections stated in the Office Action of March 13, 2006, is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

The Problem

The balance of U.S. Patent No. 4,658,922 allows additional counterbalancing weight to be added to the balance by placing auxiliary weights in apertures 44 to 46 formed in arm 39 (Fig. 1 of the '922 patent). Additional weights are not placed on the graduated scale arm 53 (Fig. 2 of the '922 patent) because the weights would interfere with use of the graduate scale on the arm and would interfere with movement of the sliding weight/pointer 41.

It was, however, desirable to increase the amount of counterbalancing weight that could be utilized by the balance.

The Invention

Applicant increased the amount of counterbalancing weight that can be utilized in the balance by incorporating novel structural features in the balance:

1. Apertures 67, 68 are formed at the ends of the graduated scale arm to receive a counterbalancing auxiliary weight (Fig. 5 of Application).

2. Sliding scale weight 41A includes a detent 41B shaped to fit around a portion of the auxiliary weight.
3. The detent 41B can be formed in a bridging section of the sliding scale. The bridging section extends beneath graduated scale arm 38A.
4. The detent 41B permits pointer 50 to move past a portion of the auxiliary weight 43.

The Prior Art

The prior art does not appear fairly to suggest:

1. Mounting an auxiliary weight on a graduated scale arm.
2. Mounting an auxiliary weight at the ends of the graduated scale arm.
3. Forming a detent 41B in the sliding scale weight 41A to fit around the auxiliary weight.
4. Permitting the pointer 50 to move past the auxiliary weight.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention as described in the amended Claims is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 or rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103 by the reference of record.

If the Examiner finds merit in the foregoing remarks and amendments, it is believed the application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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